**University of Baltimore School of Law**

**SPRING 2020**

**INTRODUCTION TO ADVOCACY**

**Course: 613 (Monday/Wednesday; Sections 1E-5E).**

**Large Group Lectures, which are not scheduled every week (check syllabus carefully), are mandatory.**

**Your small section classes are held almost every Wednesday during the semester (check syllabus carefully).**

**Location for Large Lecture and Small Section Classes: please check the Law School class schedule for the room assignment.**

**FIRST WEEK ASSIGNMENT:**

**Please sign up on TWEN for your professor’s ITA page. You also have a citation diagnostic to complete via TWEN as your first class assignment. The diagnostic will be released on January 2.**

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| **WEEK 1** | | |
| Jan. 13 | **LARGE GROUP LECTURE**  ***INTRODUCTION TO PERSUASIVE WRITING***  ***Topics:***   * Moving from Predictive to Persuasive Writing * Getting the most out of this class. * Federal and Maryland courts overview. * Effective Legal Research |  |
| Jan. 15 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Welcome to class. * Assigning Research Memorandum * In class Exercise (Neuman, Escape from Prison – Developing a Theory) | ***Reading:***  1. Syllabus & ITA course policies.  2. Research email assignment  3. Neuman, [*Legal Reasoning & Legal Writing*, pp. 291-303](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16371915&courseID=271876)  4. Coughlin *et al., [A Lawyer Writes](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16372330&courseID=271876)*[,](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16372330&courseID=271876)  [pp. 329 – 335](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16372330&courseID=271876)  5. Guberman, [*Judges Speaking Softly*](https://www.westlaw.com/Document/I86a13280d76111e8a5b3e3d9e23d7429/View/FullText.html?transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&VR=3.0&RS=cblt1.0) |
| **Homework for next week:** Prepare and send the research email due Week 2 before class. | | |

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| **WEEK 2 NO LARGE GROUP LECTURE.** | | |
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| Jan. 22 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Review and discussion of research email * Introduction to Motion Memorandum & parts of Memo * Discussion of Memorandum Assignment Documents. * Analysis of argument. | ***Reading:***   1. Carefully review materials for Motion to Dismiss Memorandum (Assignment # 1) 2. Neuman, *Legal Writing*, pp. 254-58 ([Motion Memo Format](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16371914&courseID=271876)) 3. Stark, [Writing to Win, pp. 77-93 (Art of Argument)](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16385302&courseID=271876) |
| Homework for next week: Draft outline of legal argument by drafting section headings and bullet points of anticipated arguments and citations to legal authority to be used. (See TWEN for samples.) | | |
| **WEEK 3** | | |
| Jan. 27 | **LARGE GROUP LECTURE *MOTIONS PRACTICE*** |  |
| Jan. 29 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***WRITING THE SOF & LEGAL ARGUMENT***  ***Topics:***   * Writing Statement of Facts * Drafting Persuasive Arguments and Headings * Legal analysis organization review. | ***Reading:***  1. [Fed. R. Civ. P. 12](https://www.westlaw.com/Document/N96C8CD1043A111DC8D9EC9ECEEDEF2EE/View/FullText.html?transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&VR=3.0&RS=cblt1.0) (on TWEN)  2. [D. Md. Rule 105](https://www.westlaw.com/Document/N33AE955019A511DCBD36AE0B4AC5D2DE/View/FullText.html?transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&VR=3.0&RS=cblt1.0) (on TWEN)  3. Neuman, Legal Writing, pp. 259-62 ([Types of Trial Motions](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16371917&courseID=271876))  4. Coughlin, A Lawyer Writes, [pp. 352-69 (The Argument)](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16372329&courseID=271876)  5. Coughlin, et al., *A Lawyer Writes*, [pp. 344-52. (Statement of Facts)](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16372331&courseID=271876)  6. [Writing the Statement of Facts](http://www.ncids.org/Defender%20Training/2007%20Appellate%20Advocacy%20Training/WritingTheFacts.pdf) |
| **Homework for next week**: Draft Memorandum. | | |

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| **WEEK 4 NO LARGE GROUP LECTURE** | | |
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| Feb. 5 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Polishing & editing * Citing effectively * Preparing for Expedited Hearing Arguments. | ***Reading:***   1. Stark, *Writing to Win*, [Chap. 7](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16385303&courseID=271876) 2. Norris, [*A Few Words about that Ten-Million Dollar Serial Comma*](https://www.newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/a-few-words-about-that-ten-million-dollar-serial-comma). 3. [Improve Your Legal Writing with Five Simple Rules](https://www.evanschaeffer.com/improve-your-legal-writing-with-five-simple-rules.html) |
| **Homework for next week**: **Turn in Memorandum in Support of Motion to Dismiss no later than Sunday, February 9, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** | | |
| **WEEK 5 NO LARGE GROUP LECTURE** | | |
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| Feb. 12 | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Expedited Hearing Arguments*** | ***Reading:***  Trial Memorandum # 2 Materials.  **Assigned**: Trial Memorandum # 2; Due No Later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2020. | | ***Reading:***   1. Summary Judgment Memorandum materials   ***Assigned:*** Summary Judgment Memorandum **Due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2020** |
| **Homework for next week:** Research new issue(s) as specified in Summary Judgment Motion Memorandum materials and bring to large lecture class. | | |

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| **Week 6 NO SMALL SECTION CLASSES** | | |
| Feb. 17 | **LARGE GROUP LECTURE**  ***PERSUASION TAKE 2: NOW THAT YOU DID IT ONCE, WHAT CAN YOU DO DIFFERENTLY? Writing and research strategies.*** | ***Reading:***   1. Neuman, *Legal Writing*, pp. 261-62 ([Researching the Law Governing the Procedural Posture](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16371916&courseID=271876).) 2. Guberman, [*Point Made: How to write Like the Nation’s Top Advocates.*](https://lawschool.westlaw.com/DocForums/ViewSingleDocument.aspx?postingID=16389844&courseID=271876) |
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| **Homework for next class (Week 8):** Draft statement of facts | | |
| **WEEK** 7 **CONFERENCE WEEK** | | |
| Feb. 24-28 | **\*\* Individual student conferences   with ITA Faculty**  **\*\* Sign up on TWEN.** |  |
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| **WEEK** 8 | | |
| March 4 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Review of SOF * Creating the working draft of argument; choosing large scale organization; roadmaps & headings | ***Reading:***   1. [Md. R. Civ. P. 2-501](https://www.westlaw.com/Document/N6AA5C2509CEA11DB9BCF9DAC28345A2A/View/FullText.html?transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)&VR=3.0&RS=cblt1.0). 2. [My favorite tool for focused writing](http://attorneywords.com/coffitivity/) 3. [The Seven Writing Strategies of Highly Effective Trial Judges](https://www.legalwritingpro.com/blog/the-seven-writing-strategies-of-highly-effective-trial-judges/) 4. [Stephen King on Writing, Fear, and the Atrocity of Adverbs](https://www.brainpickings.org/2013/03/13/stephen-king-on-adverbs/) 5. [6 writing tips from a sitting Supreme Court justice](https://www.businessinsider.com/us-supreme-court-justice-gave-some-amazing-tips-on-how-to-be-a-better-writer-2015-8) |
|  | **Homework for next week:** Argument section headings for your memorandum including bullet points of anticipated arguments and citations to legal authority |  |
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| **WEEK 9** | | |
| Mar. 9 | **NOTE: The Court of Special Appeals of Maryland in session. In lieu of large group lecture, students in day sections will attend oral arguments. Evening students are encouraged to attend as well.** |  |
| Mar. 11 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Appellate advocacy impressions. * Refining one’s argument; small scale organization; CREAC revisited. |  |
| Homework for next week: draft Summary Judgment Memorandum including statement of facts. | | |
| ***MARCH 16-22 - SPRING BREAK*** | | |
| **WEEK 10 NO LARGE GROUP LECTURE** | | |
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| Mar. 25 | **SMALL SECTION**  ***ARGUMENT DRAFTING***  ***Topics:***   * Writing Argument continued. * Using citation to persuade. |  |
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| **WEEK 11** | | |
| Mar. 30 | **LARGE GROUP LECTURE**  ***Topics:***  Nuts and Bolts of Making Your Argument – Carrie Williams, Office of Attorney General. | ***Reading:***  [Seventh Circuit: “We Draw the Line at Gibberish”](https://loweringthebar.net/2019/11/seventh-circuit-we-draw-the-line-at-gibberish.html) |
| Apr. 1 | **SMALL SECTION:**  ***Topics:***   * Oral Arguments. * Revising and finishing one’s draft. | ***Reading:***  [10 tips for better legal writing](http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/10_tips_for_better_legal_writing/?icn=most_read) |
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| **WEEK 12 NO LARGE GROUP LECTURE** | | |
| Apr. 6 – 10 | **Practice arguments: TAs for ITA classes will coordinate.** |  |
| Apr. 8 | **SMALL SECTION CLASS**  ***Topics:***   * Wrapping up. * Tips on creating a writing sample.   **TURN IN: Summary Judgment Memorandum due no later than 11:59 p.m. Monday, April 13, 2020.** |  |
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| **WEEK 13** | | |
| **FINAL ARGUMENTS (Week of 4/13-4/19)**  Time and Location TBD.  **Note:** Many sections will hold final arguments at Baltimore County Courthouse, Saturday, April 19. | | |
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